

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Amended) A process for operation of an active electro-optical filtering device with an active optical filter element (1), wherein the optical filter element (1) is driven with anti-polar drive pulses, whereby the optical filter element (1) is short-circuited between two successive drive pulses.

2. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 1, wherein short-circuit times (t_{s1} , t_{s2}) are shorter by factors in the order of magnitude of 10^3 to 10^7 than time durations (t_+ , t_-) of the drive pulses.

3. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 1, wherein a framework frequency (f) of the drive pulses amounts to between 0.01 and 1 Hz.

4. (Amended) The process in accordance with claim 1, wherein an operating voltage (U_{LC}) is applied to the optical filter element at which operating voltage (U_{LC}) the scattered light term (φ_{IR}) of the optical filter element (1) is smaller than or equal to a transmission term of the optical filter element (1).

5. (Amended) The process in with claim 4, wherein the operating voltage (U_{LC}) lies several times above a Fréedericksz-threshold of the optical filter element (1).

6. (Amended) An active electro-optical filtering device that is adapted for operation in

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accordance with the process of claim 1, said filtering device containing at least one active optical filter element (1) with a liquid crystal, electronic means (2) for driving the at least one active filter element (1), a light sensor (4) operating in conjunction with the electronic means (2) and electric power supply means (5), in particular a solar cell, for the electronic means (2) and the at least one optical filter element (1), and wherein the liquid crystal is implemented in accordance with a technology selected from the group consisting of: TN-technology, STN-technology, dichroic technology, ferro-electric technology and π -Mode-LCD-technology.

7. (Amended) The drive circuit (2) for an active electro-optical filtering device in accordance with claim 6, further comprising a switch (S_1) with which the active optical filter element (1) can be short-circuited.

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